



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL
MIMAROPA REGION

6th Floor, Avire Tower, P. Tuazon cor. Lakandula St., Project 4, Quezon City



**Highlights of the Joint Regional Nutrition Committee and Philippine Multisectoral
Nutrition Project Regional Technical Working Group Meeting, s. 2022**
6 September 2022 | 9:00 AM | Sequioa Hotel, Quezon City

I. ATTENDANCE

NAME	POSITION / DESIGNATION	AGENCY
1. Dr. Mario S. Baquilod	Chairperson, Regional Nutrition Committee and Regional Director	DOH CHD MIMAROPA
2. Mark Angelo Lorenzo	Nutritionist-Dietitian IV	DOH CHD MIMAROPA
3. Patricia Symouney M. Galang	Science Research Analyst	DOST MIMAROPA
4. Jobelle M. Bura-ay	Nutritionist-Dietitian III	DSWD MIMAROPA
5. Dana Sophia M. Alonzo	Nutritionist-Dietitian II	DSWD MIMAROPA
6. Jane Christine B. Guballa	Nutritionist-Dietitian II	DSWD MIMAROPA
7. Ruby T. Oncita	Agrarian Reform Officer II	DAR MIMAROPA
8. Jonathan Kim C. Torio	Budget and Management Specialist II	DBM MIMAROPA
9. Chara Lois T. Eje	Senior Economic Development Specialist	NEDA MIMAROPA
10. Keren Faye M. Gaya	Nutritionist Dietitian II	DEPED MIMAROPA
11. Dennis De Ramos	Administrative Aide VI	DILG MIMAROPA
12. Ma. Fatima I. Critica	Sociologist I	DENR MIMAROPA
13. Angeline T. Villa	Midwife II	NCIP MIMAROPA
14. Hazel D. Garduce	Agriculturist II	DA MIMAROPA
15. Jasmine Rose G. Osias	Information Officer II	POPCOM MIMAROPA
16. Ma. Eileen B. Blanco	Nutrition Program Coordinator	NNC MIMAROPA
17. Bianca Louise Veronica M. Estrella	Development Management Officer II	NNC MIMAROPA
18. Lorelie C. Millares	Project Development Officer I	NNC MIMAROPA
19. Luz R. Escubil, MD, MPH	Philippines Country Program Manager	VITAMIN ANGELS

II. PRELIMINARIES

The meeting started at around 9:35 AM with a prayer and singing of national anthem and MIMAROPA hymn through audio-visual presentation.

III. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

DMO II Estrella and PDO I Millares acknowledged the members. Of the nineteen (19) regional line agencies, thirteen (13) were in attendance, constituting a quorum of 68.42% as declared by NPC Blanco and called the meeting in order.

IV. OPENING REMARKS

RNC Chair, RD Baquilod delivered his opening message welcoming everyone. RD Baquilod shared that good reports were seen on COVID-19 data in the country and in MIMAROPA, although there are still challenges in terms of vaccination. In the last two months, there were imported cases in some areas but due to high vaccination rate, onward transmission was prevented.

Further, RD Baquilod emphasized the critical role of nutrition in terms of immune response especially this time of pandemic.

V. AGENDA

NPC Blanco presented the provisional agenda as follows:

1. Review of Highlights of the Previous Meeting
2. Introduction of Vitamin Angels to the RNC
3. Introduction to the Philippine Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Project
4. Presentation of the proposed PMNP RTWG Structure in MIMAROPA(Passing of RNC Resolution No. 3, s. 2022: *Adopting the membership of the RNC as PMNP RTWG in MIMAROPA*)
5. Introduction of PMNP RPMOs and RMobTAT (DOH and DSWD) to the PMNP RTWG and RNC.
6. Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) Pro
7. Other Matters

Duly seconded, the meeting agenda was moved for approval by Mr. Lorenzo of CHD MIMAROPA.

VI. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

A. Review of Highlights of the Previous Meeting

In the interest of time and to give ample time to discuss the main agenda, Ms. Eje moved to dispense the review of the highlights of the meeting with the motion

seconded by Mr. De Ramos. NPC Blanco added that if members have additional inputs, members may email their comments until 16 September 2022.

B. Introduction of Vitamin Angels to the RNC

Dr. Luz R. Escubil, the Country Program Manager of Vitamin Angels introduce the Vitamin Angels to the RNC. The following are the information shared by Dr. Escubil during the meeting:

1. Who are the Vitamin Angels?

Vitamin Angels is a public health nonprofit working to improve nutrition worldwide with a goal to reduce inequity by ensuring that underserved, nutritionally vulnerable populations have access to evidence-based nutrition interventions.

2. What do We Do?

We partner with local organizations, including governments, to reach the most underserved, nutritionally vulnerable populations- pregnant women, infants, and children- with evidenced-based nutrition interventions.

3. What are EBNIs?

Evidenced-based Nutrition Interventions:

- Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation (MMS) for pregnant women
- Promotion of optimal maternal, infant and young child nutrition (MIYCN)
- Vitamin A Supplementation + Deworming (VAS + D)

4. Delivery of Evidence-Based Nutrition Information

- 60m hard-to-reach women and children
- 65+ countries
 - ✓ 50% of our reach occurs through 9 priority countries
- 2,000+ partners
 - ✓ Government (national, state, local, etc.)
 - ✓ Non-governmental organizations (INGOs, CBOs, clinics, etc.)

5. Who Qualifies to be a partner?

- Must be locally registered organization in the country of program operation
- Can reach pregnant women and/or children 6-59 months.
- Must serve individuals who do not have regular access to Vitamin A, albendazole, and/or maternal supplements (IFA or MMS) from national health services.
- Distribute Vitamin Angels' nutrition interventions without funding from Vitamin Angels.
- Serve at least 500 children 6-59 months and/or 100 pregnant women.

6. How to become a Program Partner?

▪ Plan and Apply for a Grant

- ✓ After reviewing our eligibility criteria, determine the need in the communities you serve, coordinate with your government or local health center to avoid duplication, and complete our application, found here: <https://www.vitaminangels.org/grant-applications>.

▪ Deliver the Interventions

- ✓ After your grant is approved, Vitamin Angels will send your shipment to your primary address. Integrate the nutrition interventions into your programs in a way that works for you and your community. Use the educational and training materials provided to help you distribute the interventions safely and effectively.

▪ Report and Renew

- ✓ Six months after you receive the grant, we will check-in to assess your inventory and discuss any issues with the distribution. After completing the distribution, submit the Annual Reporting form. Once the annual report has been submitted, grant can be renewed annually by submitting a simple grant extension application.

7. Technical Assistance

Learning solutions to ensure effective delivery of EBNIs:

- Training toolbox
- Instructor-led skills development course
- eLearning
- Webinar
- Support tools such as VAS+D visual checklist, Steps Card, instructional videos, instructor-led course slides and reference manuals

8. Provisions of resources to increase availability of EBNIs to pregnant women and children

▪ Program Partners Mobilized

35 program partners availed of a grant from VA in 2021.

▪ Beneficiaries Reached: Year 2021

VA Programs	Beneficiaries Reached
VAS	276, 425 children aged 6 to 59 months
Deworming	186,500 children aged 12 to 59 months
MMS	128, 468 pregnant women

- **Provinces covered with VAS, Deworming and MMS**

- ✓ A total of 46 provinces and 8 cities were reached in year 2021
- ✓ 19 out of the 36 PPAN focus provinces were supported by VA through its program partners in year 2021

C. Introduction to Philippine Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Project

Dr. Mathew Medrano facilitated the discussion about the introduction to Philippine Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Project. Agreements and the roles and responsibility was also discussed.

- It was stated at first that the Philippine Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Project aims to support the government in adopting a bold, multi-sectoral nutrition approach to deliver a coordinated package of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions across various LGUS together with a harmonized social behavior change and communication strategy.
- Component 1: Enhancing Nutrition Service Delivery Through Primary Health Care Integration will be under the supervision of the DOH, it aims to focus on strengthening primary health care systems to enhance the delivery of nutrition specific and sensitive interventions, as well as the provision of Social and Behavioral Change Communication to improve key behaviors important to address stunting. The component finances Performance Based Grants (PBG) to stimulate the implementation of high impact interventions. The activities under this component can be categorized into three sub-components.
- Component 2: Community-based Nutrition Service Delivery and Multisectoral Nutrition Converge will be led by DSWD, it will focus on multisector community- based promotion of key family practices and health care seeking behaviors for improved maternal and child health and nutrition outcomes. The component supports the design and implementation of household and community level interventions to improve mother and child health and nutrition, with emphasis on the first 1,000 days of life.
- Component 3: Institutional Strengthening, Monitoring and Evaluation and Communications finance the Institutional strengthening of project implementing entities including the Local Government Units; Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation.
- The project will prioritize LGUs with the highest burden of childhood stunting based on best available data. Primary project beneficiaries will comprise children under five years old (with attention to children under two years who will be reached by project activities before stunting becomes largely irreversible), as well as pregnant and lactating women in LGUs prioritized for PMNP support. There are 14 identified target areas in the MIMAROPA region, this includes 7 municipalities in Occidental Mindoro and 7 municipalities in Romblon.

Occidental Mindoro	Romblon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abra De Ilog • Calintaan • Lubang • Mamburao • Paluan • Santa Cruz • Rizal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banton • Cajidiocan • Calatrava • Corcuera • Ferrol • San Jose • Santa Maria

- Dr. Mathew Medrano then discussed the roles and responsibility of the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) - as co-implementing agencies.
- He also said that the respective Regional Offices of the DOH, NNC and DSWD are mobilized to implement and coordinate technical assistance to the Project LGUs in line with the directions, policies and guidelines of their respective national offices.
- Dr. Medrano also said that the PMNP-RTWG shall be established, chaired by the CHD Director and co-chaired by the DSWD Field Office Director. The PMNP-RTWG shall be composed of representatives from the following, but not limited to, participating agencies:
NNC – Regional Office;
DA – Regional Office; and
DILG – Regional Office.
- He also tackled and discussed the roles and responsibilities of different agencies like **Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)**, **Department of Agriculture (DA)** and from different LGUs such as from **Provincial/Municipal Local Government Units (PLGUs)**, **PHO**, **Provincial Nutrition Office (PNO)**, and **Barangay Government**.

**D. Presentation of the proposed PMNP RTWG Structure in MIMAROPA
(Passing of RNC Resolution No. 3, s. 2022: Adopting the membership of the RNC as PMNP RTWG in MIMAROPA)**

NPC Blanco facilitated the reading of the RNC Resolution No. 3, s. 2022 for the adoption of the membership of the MIMAROPA Regional Nutrition Committee (RNC) as Philippine Multisectoral Nutrition Project Regional Technical Working Group (PMNP RTWG) in MIMAROPA. After the reading, RD Baquilod called for comments from the members.

It was then agreed that the secretariat will email the resolution to all the RTWG members for comments and suggestions open until 16 September 2022 from which secretariat will revise and finalize for approval of the RNC Chair.

E. Introduction of PMNP RPMOs and RMobTAT (DOH and DSWD) to the PMNP RTWG and RNC.

The members of the PMNP RPMOs and RMobTAT (DOH and DSWD) was introduced by Mr. Lorenzo to the PMNP RTWG and RNC followed by a photo opportunity that includes everyone that attended the joint PMNP and RNC meeting.

F. Monitoring and Evaluation of Local Level Plan Implementation (MELLPI) Pro

NO II Estrella provided brief discussion on the update of MELLPI Pro. Since COVID-19 situation already eased and no more strict travel restriction, onsite monitoring has been done to local government units and local nutrition focal points this year. She also discussed the schedule for the remaining MELLPI PRO evaluation that will cover all the five (5) provinces, component city, highly urbanized city.

A. SYNTHESIS AND ADJOURNMENT

1. The group dispensed the discussion of the highlights of the previous meeting and requested to email additional inputs until 16 September 2022.
2. RD Baquilod presented the status of COVID-19 situation show the continuous decrease on the number of cases however it was noted that vaccination is still a challenge in some areas.
3. Vitamin Angels was introduced to the RNC-RTWG members by Dr. Escubil.
4. Dr. Mathew Medrano discussed the Introduction to the Philippine Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Project.
5. NPC Blanco facilitated the reading of the RNC Resolution No. 3, s. 2022 for the adoption of the membership of the MIMAROPA Regional Nutrition Committee (RNC) as Philippine Multisectoral Nutrition Project Regional Technical Working Group (PMNP RTWG) in MIMAROPA. After the reading, RD Baquilod called for comments from the members.
6. It was then agreed that the secretariat will email the resolution to all the RTWG members for comments and suggestions open until 16 September 2022 from which secretariat will revise and finalize for approval of the RNC Chair.
7. The members of the PMNP RPMOs and RMobTAT (DOH and DSWD) was introduced by Mr. Lorenzo to the PMNP RTWG and RNC followed by a photo opportunity that includes everyone that attended the joint PMNP and RNC meeting.
8. NO II Estrella provided brief discussion on the update of MELLPI Pro. Since COVID-19 situation already eased and no more strict travel restriction, onsite

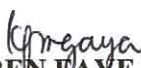
monitoring has been done to local government units and local nutrition focal points this year. She also discussed the schedule for the remaining MELLPI PRO evaluation that will cover all the five (5) provinces, component city, highly urbanized city.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM. NPC Blanco thanked the RNC Chair for joining the meeting and the rest of members of sharing their time while RD Baquilod thanked everyone and greet them an advance Merry Christmas.

Prepared by:


LORELIE C. MILLARES
Project Development Officer I

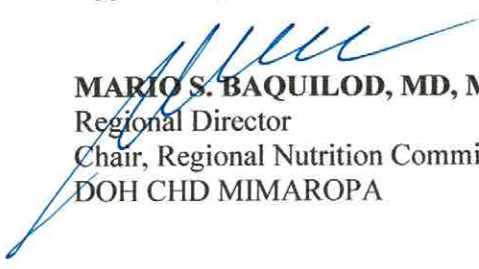
Reviewed by:


KEREN FAYE M. GAYA
Nutrition Officer III

Noted by:


MA. EILEEN B. BLANCO, RND, MPA
Nutrition Program Coordinator
NNC-MIMAROPA

Approved by:


MARIO S. BAQUILOD, MD, MPH, CESO IV
Regional Director
Chair, Regional Nutrition Committee
DOH CHD MIMAROPA